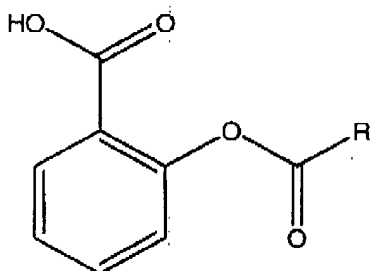


Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The powdered composition which reacts in water to form one or more peroxycarboxylic acids in an anti-microbial effective concentration providing surface disinfection/sterilization of human and animal skin, tissue and body cavities; and medical devices/instruments, comprising:

from about 20% by weight to about 50% by weight of ~~sodium perborate~~ one or more perborates;
from about 1% by weight to 50% by weight of one or more acyl donors of the formula:



wherein R is C₂-C₄ alkyl, straight chained, branched, or cyclic, and from about 1% to 30% by weight of a buffering system which consists of a combination of monobasic, dibasic and/or tribasic sodium phosphate, either as hydrates and/or anhydrous salts; and from about 0.005% to 1.0% by weight of an alkylaryl sulfonate surfactant.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 16 which has a D-value of six minutes or less at or below 60 degrees °C for disinfection/sterilization of medical devices/instruments.

Claim 18 (Original): The composition of claim 17 wherein the alkylaryl sulfonate surfactant is the sodium salt of dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid.

Claims 19-20 (Cancelled).